

TOWN OF CORTLAND
Town Hall
59 S. Somonauk Road
Cortland, IL 60112
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Business Meeting
September 26, 2011
7:00 P.M.

Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Roll Call

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Seyller called the meeting to order with roll call taken by Town Clerk Cheryl Aldis. Shown as present were Mayor Seyller and Trustees Brad Stone, Susan Dockus, Sandra Barzso, Chuck Lanning (7:02), Doug Corson, and Mike Siewierski. Quorum was present. Also present was Walter Magdziarz, Town Administrator, and Chief Dennis Medema.

Agenda

Trustee Siewierski moved and Trustee Barzso seconded a motion to approve the agenda as amended by moving V Consent Agenda item f; An Ordinance Fixing the Compensation of Appointed Officers and moving it to VII Unfinished Business item a. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

Public Wishing to Speak

There were none present wishing to speak.

Chief Medema Medal of Valor Presentation to Officer Kimberly Everhart

Chief Medema introduced Officer Everhart's family; Bob Everhart, husband, Mr. & Mrs. Everhart, in-laws, Mr. & Mrs. Klenzman, parents, and attending colleagues Sheriff Roger Scott, Chief Deputy Gary Dumdie, Retired Cortland Chief Russell Stokes, Waterman Chief Chuck Breeze, Detective Sgt. Brad Carls, Sgt. Grum, Deputy Corey Devine, Deputy Josh Duehning and Officer Jessica Duehning, Officer Dave Varner, Sgt. Justin Kness, Officer Peggy Hopkins and interested Cortland citizens.

Chief Medema read a commendation, appended as a part of these minutes, which has been framed and presented to Officer Everhart.

Sheriff Scott addressed the Board and audience. He discussed the work of an officer going into the unknown, having the courage to do so and the professionalism to prevent further injury to residents.

Consent Agenda

Approve Town Board Minutes of August 22 and September 12
Approve Treasurer's Report for August
Approve Expenditure Report for August
Accept Parade & Festival Committee Minutes of August 23 and September 7
DCESDA Agreement (DeKalb County Emergency Services Disaster Agency) **A2011-4**

Approved: November 14, 2011

Attest: RN

Trustee Lanning moved and Trustee Barzso seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Roll call vote:

Ayes: Trustees Lanning, Siewierski, Dockus, Barzso, Corson and Stone

Nays: None

Absent: None

6-yea; 0-nay; 0-absent; motion carried.

Discussion:

Approved changes to August 22, 2011 minutes: Page 1 Consent Agenda-Department of Ag Compliance Agreement completed sentence to read Mr. Magdziarz stated that they are only required to keep the document in the vehicle. Page 2 mid page ... We are not going to be able to buy things for the future until this building is completed. Page 4 mid page... The good news is the bubble has not grown. Page 4 Comments/Concerns Trustee Dockus stated she liked the document submitted to the table tonight regarding the Streets & Maintenance building stating it was very helpful because it shows the source of the funds for the loan payment.

Approved changes to September 12, 2011 minutes: Page 3 Authorize Execution of a Participants Agreement (DATA)...(\$3,500 for Police, \$4,700 for town garage and \$500 for Town Hall) were discussed.

Page 3 DFO Participation Agreement, last paragraph... Mr. Magdziarz answered that DFO believes it does not. Complete removal of the last paragraph on page 3 and replace with General discussion ensued. Page 4 Comments and Concerns substitute the word provide for send in the first sentence.

Trustee Dockus asked again, where the revenue for the water utility billing is being reported. Mr. Magdziarz stated he had no information available tonight. She commented that the amount transferred is not budgeted and questioned how are we allowing it to be done?

Mrs. Dockus questioned the DeKalb County ESDA Agreement "everything present to 2009 is rescinded," is this correct? Mr. Magdziarz reported that it is correct.

New Business

Municipal Residential Electric Aggregation (Progressive Energy Group, Inc) Town of Cortland Cost Reduction Initiative

Chris Childress of Progressive Energy Group addressed the Board. He stated the company has 75 years of experience with ComEd and NICOR. Mr. Childress has worked for both organizations combined for over 30 years. Progressive Energy Group works with many different municipalities and energy groups like Rock River Energy and NIMEC (Northern IL Electric Collaborative). He stated that the current bills for the Town of Cortland have been reviewed. He discussed auditing and municipal aggregation. He reported that all product delivery still comes through ComEd and NICOR – these items do not change. Those are the companies are who would be called if power goes out or gas issues occur.

Mr. Childress reviewed the handout submitted to the table with the Board.

The electric audit on page 7 was reviewed. The information provided resulted in a recommendation of securing a 24 month contract with Hudson Energy Services. Mr. Childress reported that two bills would be received, one from ComEd the other from Hudson Energy Services.

Mayor Seyller asked about projected annual spending for the sewer treatment plant. Mr. Childress reported it is based on annual usage times the rate.

Chris Childress stated there is no band width with Hudson – if higher or lower the rate would remain the same (\$0.05080). The town can select which accounts it would like to include. Dusk to Dawn lighting program – Exelon would save about \$213.94 in annual spending. No risk with a lower rate. This is a one-year contract.

Summary – consumptions side – two programs would be approx. \$11,203.74 electric savings over a two-year period.

Page 14 – Municipal Aggregation Introduction

Page 15 discusses what it is; overview of residential rates on page 16; residential billing would all be on the same bill (not two separate bills); Page 17 – key points reviewed. Status – page 18 reviewed; Page 19 – Municipal Steps were reviewed.

Notices are required with each bidding period. Residents moving out - account terminates – incoming resident defaults to the ComEd base rate until the next bidding period when they would receive notice and the opportunity to opt in. ComEd budget plans would not be affected.

This company is paid by the supplier, plus a fee from each household.

The first opportunity to take action on the municipal side of this would be October 10, 2011.

Unfinished Business

An Ordinance Fixing the Compensation of Appointed Officers

The proposed ordinance includes the positions of Town Administrator, Treasurer/Budget Officer and Police Chief.

Mr. Magdziarz reported the Police Chief is entitled to overtime and has earned overtime during this current budget. Therefore, the proposed ordinance needs to include the language “plus overtime if applicable” to be correct.

Chuck Lanning stated the Administrator has received two cost of living increases in almost two years; a \$5,000 increase. He asked when the contract up. The contract is through the term of the Mayor, April 2013.

The question was asked if this is a fiscal year statement; paychecks received or work done in the fiscal year 2012?

The logical conclusion would be work done in the fiscal year. The question could not be answered at this time.

Trustee Dockus moved and Trustee Siewierski seconded a motion to approve An Ordinance Fixing the Compensation of Appointed Officers.

Roll call vote:

Yeas: Trustees Barzso, stone, Dockus, Lanning, Corson and Siewierski
Nays: None
Absent: None
6-yea; 0-nay; 0-absent; motion carried

Ord 2011-23

Park Use License

Mr. Magdziarz stated this proposal is an attempt to provide a starting point for developing a process to use park facilities in the town. He stated he tried to come up with as many experiences as possible to create a generic document. Discussion ensued. The question was asked, who does this apply to and not apply to?

Mayor Seyller replied this is for the extraordinary event, not the general party using available picnic tables; persons not producing additional liability to the town. It is projected toward group organizations or individuals who wish to have a reserved portion of the park for themselves, they would qualify for a licensed use.

Finance Department Proposal

Trustee Dockus had a general question – why are we doing this? She stated when the town's attorneys wrote the handbook they defined the departments. The job has not grown, the job is smaller now than in 2005; five divisions of that department that don't exist. This goes way beyond anything that we should be contemplating.

Mr. Magdziarz stated he would be recommending doing this even if Trustee Dockus was still treasurer. The financial functions/responsibilities for this organization are specialized. They need to be given some stature to call attention to the fact that this is a function that deserves a special place. He reported he has plans to do the same for water waste-water and streets.

Trustee Siewierski stated that is revamping the town from top to bottom.

Mayor Seyller stated he wants to create official departments.

Trustee Dockus stated there is no purpose to setting up a department for one person.

This item will be on the Committee of the Whole for discussion on October 10.

Liaison Reports

Festival/Parade – Brad Stone

Trustee Stone reported that the Mayor has denied an expenditure for the festival. It was a cost of \$3500 for one ride. Mayor Seyller stated he felt with all the other monies spent this was too expensive. He felt the money could be spent better. Trustee Stone reported the committee was told if it was let this item go the money would be put toward electrical upgrades to the park. He hopes to see that happen.

Planning Commission – Chairman Brad Lawson

Next Meeting: October 3

President's Report

The Mayor had nothing specific to report.

Concerns / Comments

Brad Stone stated that he is interested in electric company potential changes. Mr. Magdziarz gave a building update for Streets & Maintenance. He reported that there was a contractor's meeting last week which resolved a lot of differences. It is planned to take the roof off tomorrow; probably next week due to weather. Demolition work on the inside has begun. Weather permitting there may be some outside work yet this week. A proposal from the mason to do some selective tuck point work in preparation of exterior painting has been received. Electric could be underground by the weekend, weather dependent. The question was asked if the town would be downgrading the electric service. The service is currently 440, that level is not needed at the facility. Mr. Magdziarz reported we will keep three-phase service.

Mascal Electric will be giving proposal regarding provision of lightening protection at the Barber Greene lift station as well as water tower #2 and the sewer treatment plant.

Mr. Magdziarz reported that he had visited a new facility this past Friday, it is LEED certified. They discussed problems, 1) power interruption; and 2) lightening protection.

Trustee Lanning asked Mr. Magdziarz the status regarding a trailer for the Chestnut Grove park equipment stored at the DeKalb-Taylor Airport. The amount of space it takes was not anticipated. Mr. Magdziarz stated the town is looking at storing it on-site someplace. Purchase of an inexpensive semi-trailer and store it out of site somewhere could be appropriate. He stated the sanitary treatment plant property might be the place. He further stated that he is reluctant to spend any money. He will contact the bank controlling the property to see if they will pay for the trailer. It would be cheaper than them paying for storage.

Trustee Lanning stated that the snow plow that has been budgeted needs to be built and asked when it would be ordered. He stated it takes four to six weeks to build. Mr. Magdziarz said he has not yet received anything from Mr. Kocher.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss a motion for adjournment was made by Trustee Brad Stone and seconded by Trustee Mike Siewierski. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cheryl Aldis
Town Clerk

Commendation

On Thursday evening, July 21st at about 9:45 pm, Officer Everhart was on stationary patrol on Somonauk Road at Johnson Canvas. It was at that time when a frantic female ran across Somonauk Road to Officer Everhart's location stating that she needed help with a problem in her home, the house directly across the street at 11 E. Railroad Ave.

Officer Everhart drove her vehicle across the street and entered the home to find two male subjects in a physical confrontation. Officer Everhart deployed her taser at the aggressor, the older male. While Officer Everhart's attention was focused on the two males fighting the female re-entered the home behind her. At some point the aggressor's weapon was fired. Officer Everhart immediately called out "shots fired" on the radio which triggered a massive police response from the De Kalb County Sheriff's Office, Sycamore Police, De Kalb Police, Illinois State Police and Northern Illinois University Police. After deployment of her taser, Officer Everhart saw the aggressor fall to the floor allowing her an opportunity to escort the female and the younger male out of the residence to a point of cover behind a vehicle parked outside the residence. Once behind cover, more gunshots were heard. While behind cover Officer Everhart was able to see that both parties she had escorted from the home had been shot. By then responding officers were able to provide cover so Officer Everhart could get the injured into her police vehicle and move them to an awaiting ambulance.

Once the victims were safely removed from the area, Officer Everhart assisted other responding officers in securing a perimeter and preventing the escape of the offender. Once a perimeter was established, Officer Everhart was called to the command post where she was also able to relate information on the home that would be useful when the S.W.A.T team would make its entry a few hours later.

There is no doubt in my mind that Officer Everhart's swift and professional response prevented a catastrophic outcome and should be recognized for her actions.

Therefore, it is my pleasure to commend Officer Everhart on a job well done.

Chief Dennis M. Medema
September 26th, 2011